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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S-E-C-R-E-T

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR
RE-REVIEW**S-E-C-R-E-T**

STATE	#x	ARMY	#x	NAVY	#x	AIR	#x	FBI		AEC					
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COUNTRY USSR/East Germany**DATE DISTR.** 28 June 1955**SUBJECT** Soviet Intelligence Service and Security Practices**NO. OF PAGES** 9**DATE OF INFORMATION****REFERENCES:****PLACE ACQUIRED**

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Partial Soviet Standard Brief No. 7

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SOVIET INTELLIGENCE SERVICE AND SECURITY FACTORS

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A. SECURITY, GENERAL

[redacted] the only other place [redacted] 25X1
 where unit designations could be found was on the regimental colors. It was
 possible that the unit designation was also included in documents [redacted]

No unit designations were ever entered on any unit equipment. [redacted]

The only way to learn the designation of another unit [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] was by hearsay, unless an individual had access to official 25X1
 documents. [redacted] in most cases unit personnel learned 25X1
 of the designation of their units in a "unit history lecture" and that such
 information would be accurate.

Whenever [redacted] regiment was to participate in a field problem
 involving other units, the field problem was sometimes preceded by an
 orientation in which his unit CO explained which units were taking part
 and what divisional units would be supported by [redacted] regiment. However, 25X1
 the numerical designation of the units was not disclosed.

2. Security Duties

a. Security Personnel

In the PRENZLAU garrison area [redacted] 25X1
 [redacted] each regiment and separate battalion performed interior guard duties 25X1
 within its own area. For example [redacted] regiment had sentries posted at 25X1
 its Food and Forage Warehouse and Clothing and Equipment Warehouse, POL
 dump, Weapons and Vehicle Park, and Regimental Headquarters with the
 regimental colors. 25X1

Each regiment guarded the same type of installations within its
 regimental area. In addition to this interior guard, each regiment and 25X1

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separate battalion at intervals provided a garrison guard for the entire PRENZLAU garrison area, apparently on a roster basis. This garrison guard required enough personnel to man four posts. Each post was a one man post. Each sentry was on two hours and off four.

Each year while the 25th Tk Div was at its summer camp, an interior and garrison guard was also posted. This required about the same number of personnel as was required while the units were in their "winter quarters".

In the KARLSHORST compound area [redacted]

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[redacted] interior guard duty was presumably performed by the Kommandatura security company. Individual units within the compound also maintained a sentry post on posts within their own immediate area during the hours of darkness. [redacted] the Army Post Office Unit 12725 (which was only a seven man unit), posted a sentry at the building housing the post office daily during the hours of darkness.

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b. Identification Required

(1) At Casernes [redacted] Units

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During daylight hours no identification was required of military personnel to enter the compound area in the PRENZLAU Garrison Area. Usually personnel posted as sentries at the compound entrances were familiar with most of the personnel and did not ask for any identification for military personnel entering the compound. Whenever there was a tightening of security, which happened periodically, sentries posted at compound entrances then required all personnel to show their ID books.

Officers and reenlistees were seldom required to show any identification either in entering or leaving a compound. Conscriptees, on the other hand, theoretically could not leave the compound unless they had a pass. However, during daylight hours, even they were seldom stopped from leaving the compound. Since a conscript's time was fairly well accounted for by obligatory formations, there was little chance of his leaving his caserne unauthorized. However, if a conscript did happen to be free, he could walk out of the compound without any trouble during daylight hours since he usually knew the sentry at the entrance.

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Due to the fact that much of the training was conducted in the immediate vicinity outside the compound, everyone was free to come and go, more or less. However, during the hours of darkness, conscripts could not leave the compound quite so easily. Again, their time was occupied by formations; but if a conscript had a friend at the sentry post and would not be missed, he went to PRENZLAU or some nearby bar. The only reason for having a pass [redacted] was to show authorization for being out of the compound in the event a conscript was picked up by the Kommandatura of the city of PRENZLAU. As long as a man behaved, he had no fear of being bothered by the Kommandatura and consequently many conscripts went over the fence or through the entrances without a pass as long as they would not be missed at their unit.

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[redacted] the same situation as that described above existed in the KARLSHORST compound.

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Some conscripts in the PRENZLAU garrison were also issued special passes, so that they could go to the dependent area to awaken their unit officers in the event an alert was called during off-duty hours. This dependent housing area was located just outside the compound proper.

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(2) In Maneuver Areas

[redacted] no identification required for Soviet personnel to enter maneuver areas. When the division was in summer camp, there was a garrison guard posted to keep Soviet personnel within the summer camp area. However, this guard was inadequate and it was no problem to sneak off to the numerous small villages surrounding the camp area. [redacted] persons in civilian clothes loitering in the maneuver area would be questioned; yet he had seen Germans working in vegetable gardens in areas through which a field exercise passed who were never questioned.

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(3) Other Areas

To enter other Soviet military areas [redacted] it was necessary to merely show [redacted] identity book. [redacted]

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[redacted] All that was required to gain entrance to Soviet compounds in these places was an identity booklet. [redacted]

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[redacted] installations that were off limits even to Soviet personnel in general. The only such installation or area [redacted] was in the KARLSHORST Compound. This was an area that reputedly housed the Soviet Embassy and some unknown type of intelligence organization. [redacted]

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3. Foreign Nationals

a. Employment in Soviet Military Installations

In the PRENZLAU garrison area each regiment and separate battalion had employed Germans until 1951 when their duties as waitresses and cleaning women were taken over by Soviet military and civilian female personnel. Although there were no longer any foreign nationals (Germans) who were employed by the garrison. An unknown number worked in the garrison Post Exchange and the garrison tailor shops and for the garrison billeting section, all of which were in the dependent housing area outside the compound proper. There were also some foreign nationals who did full-time repair and utilities work within the compound. [redacted] these persons came under the responsibility of the Garrison Billeting section [redacted]

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Within the KARLSHORST compound there were a large number of foreign nationals, (Germans). These persons worked in all the billeting facilities, and at such places as the motion-picture house, the restaurants, the German automatic switchboard that serviced the compound, the summer theatre, and all the branch post exchanges. [redacted]

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b. Identification

In order for the foreign nationals employed at both the PRENZLAU Garrison and the KARLSHORST compounds to enter these compounds, they had to show a special pass. Entrance was denied to all other foreign nationals with the exception that in the PRENZLAU Garrison area, certain specific Germans were allowed to enter the compound without any apparent identification

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for the purpose of picking up garbage at the messhalls and the clubs without supervision. These Germans were familiar to the sentries at the entrances by face.

c. Quarters

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No foreign nationals employed in the PRENZLAU Garrison area lived within the compound proper.

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the area under construction in the 25th Tk Div's summer training camp in TORNOW (5304N-1316E). These barracks were constructed to house the German civilians engaged in the construction of permanent-type buildings in this area.

4. Intelligence Activities in Soviet Army Units

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There was a senior lieutenant (nu) in the 459th Mortar Regt who was known as an "Osobnyak" (member of the Special Section). This individual normally wore the same type uniform and the same type of artillery shoulderboards as the other officers of the regiment. However, he would at times wear the double-breasted dress coat of the armored forces with rolled collar. Each regiment and each separate battalion at PRENZLAU had such a representative.

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Chief of Communications was often requested to do certain things by the "Osobnyak". During all holidays this "Osobnyak" would demand that all the regimental radios be sealed and secured and then kept under lock and key. One RBM-type radio was kept in use as a "duty" radio during holidays, to maintain contact with the Division Commander of Artillery. The "Osobnyak" usually came to check up and to be sure that any radio was sealed and under lock and key whenever there was a holiday.

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5. MVD Units

a. In Germany

Some way connected with the MVD. the "Osobnyak" previously mentioned was in some type of intelligence organization in the KARLSHORST compound mentioned on page 4 of this report. Other than this, source knew of no MVD troops, units, or organizations in Germany.

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b. In the USSR

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the railroad police, who were at all large railroad depots and stations, were members of the MVD. These policemen were easily distinguished since they wore a dark blue uniform, carried sabers and wore spurs.

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The only border guard troops were at the Polish-East German border at FRANKFURT/Oder.³ The only distinguishing feature was that these troops wore green shoulderboards.

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6. Censorship

a. Mail to and from the USSR

censorship was to be lifted in Jan 54. This would include lifting of censorship on mail to and from the USSR. Letters being sent to the USSR and letters received from the USSR subsequently also indicated by their appearance that there was no longer any censorship as had been quite obvious before.

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there was no censorship or any kind going on within the postal unit itself heretofore. mail processed through this postal unit had been sent to POTSDAM to the "Group" Post Office and one of the sections of the "Group" post office did censor all mail. However, the building occupied by the censorship unit of this post office was now vacant the unit was no longer functioning.

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prior to the lifting of censorship, recruits had been told that in their letters to the USSR they could not mention the name of their unit by number, their commanders, the specific town where their unit was stationed, the types of weapons or equipment in the unit, or any such related information that could possibly disclose military information. this warning was given only to recruits and prior to the lifting of censorship in Jan 54: military personnel, especially recruits, continued to be cautioned not to write anything of military significance, especially since there was no longer any censorship.

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violations were reported to unit commanders by higher headquarters; in turn, these commanders took issue with their subordinates. many times while censorship was in force, letters to the USSR had been occasionally removed from envelopes and replaced with a plain piece of paper. These letters had contained so much actual or possible military information that this was the easiest way to censor them.

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While censorship was in force, mail from the USSR to East Germany had also been censored. Remarks concerning deplorable living conditions were censored as well as any information having possible military significance. Source was certain that there was no censorship on mail from the USSR

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b. Mail to German Nationals

Officially it was forbidden to receive or send mail to Germans. However, it was possible to send mail to Germany illegally by simply dropping the mail in a German mail box and using no return address or a phoney address.

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7. Photographs

a. Exposures

Soviet personnel were permitted to have cameras and prior to 1953 there were no restrictions on what could be photographed. Starting in the summer of 1953, however, it was expressly forbidden at a unit formation to photograph anything that might be connected with military information.

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on any type of training as had been done previously.

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b. Developing

It was forbidden to have any film developed at any German establishment. Since 1952 Soviet personnel had also been forbidden to have their pictures taken at any civilian studio. German photo shops had been warned by the PRENZLAU Kommandatura not to photograph Soviet military personnel.

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Pictures taken by Soviet personnel were developed by themselves.

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8. Kommandaturas

In the city of PRENZLAU there was a Kommandatura, headed by a lieutenant colonel (nu).

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In addition to the personnel who actually composed the Kommandatura, it was further supported by a daily patrol detail which was provided by the PRENZLAU Garrison. This detail consisted of two or three officers and about seven or eight EM and its only mission was to maintain order in town.

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The unit that was responsible for providing this patrol detail also provided one vehicle for it. The patrol detail received its orders from the Commandant of the city of PRENZLAU (the Chief of the Kommandatura).

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9. Documents Section

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He was quite sure that each regiment and separate battalion of the 25th Tk Div also had a Secret Documents Section but he could comment only on the Secret Documents Section of his own regiment. This Section was headed by an officer of company grade.

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This officer was aided by one EM who acted in a clerk's capacity.

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This Secret Documents Section contained a separate reading room where matter could be read after being properly signed for. No one was allowed to take any matter out of the Section.

All officers had access to material held in the Section, although lower-ranking officers had access to only certain matter on a need-to-know basis. Enlisted personnel who were instructors or NCO's were also permitted to read certain manuals that were necessary for instructional purposes.

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only the Chief of the Section, the Section clerk, the regimental Chief of Staff and his assistant were permitted in the part of the Section where classified matter was actually kept. this section was the responsibility of the regimental Chief of Staff.

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10. Wearing of Civilian Clothes for Intelligence Purposes

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the Special Section representative (in PRENZLAU occasionally wore a double-breasted tanker blouse. However, he did not appear to be doing this to conceal his identity.

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certain Soviet personnel of the KARLSHORST compound wore civilian clothing and drove German-type civilian passenger cars in an apparent effort to conceal their identity.

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other personnel in civilian clothing in KARLSHORST presumed to be intelligence personnel.

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. PROPAGANDA

1. Listening to Foreign Broadcasts

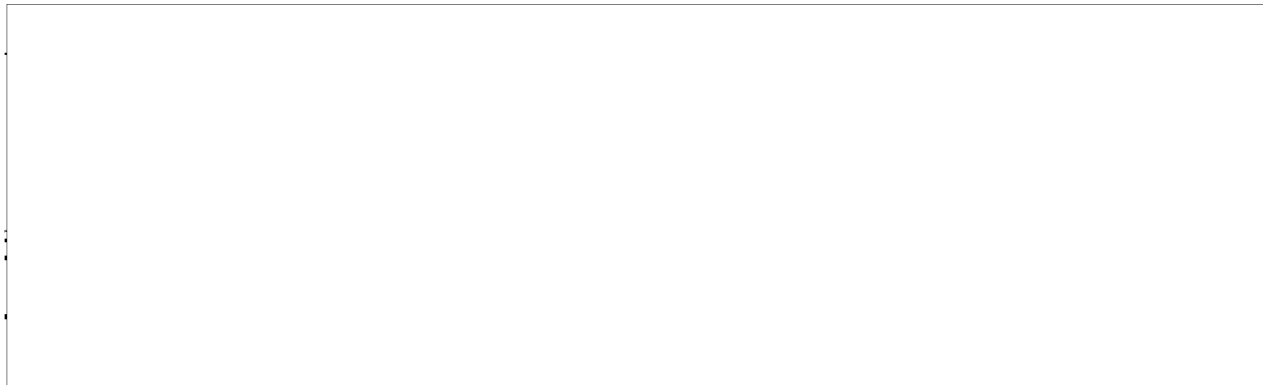


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[redacted] Voice of America broadcasts were heard on long wave
t about 200 kilocycles.

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[redacted] many of the officers and reenlistees in both
RENZLAU and KARLSHORST listened to these foreign broadcasts. [redacted]
[redacted] conscripts did not own any radios and could not listen to foreign
roadcasts with the exception of those who occupied T/O&E positions as radio 25X1
perators. 25X1



[redacted] It was forbidden by unit 25X1
olitical officers to listen to foreign radio programs; consequently no one
et it be known to others whether he was listening to such broadcasts.

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